



California Department of Veterans Affairs

NEWS RELEASE

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REMEMBERING AND HONORING PEARL HARBOR SURVIVORS AND ALL VETERANS ON THIS DAY

SACRAMENTO – Today, millions of Americans, veterans and non-veterans alike, gather in groups to remember that December 7th day that still lives in infamy 66 years later, the day that Pearl Harbor was attacked by Japanese fighter bombers that swooped down on the U.S. Navy's sleeping Pacific Fleet. The attack destroyed most of our nation's battleships tied to piers, and air planes at rest on airfields, and killed more than 2,400 American Marines, sailors, soldiers and civilians, and dragged the United States into the world war raging in Europe and the Pacific. In honor of this date, Governor Schwarzenegger has proclaimed December 7, 2007 as "Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day" in California and ordered that the flag be flown at half-staff.

"As we honor Pearl Harbor survivors and all World War II veterans on this day, we are reminded that so many have sacrificed so much for all of us to live in this great country of freedom and opportunity," said Department of Veterans Affairs Secretary Tom Johnson. "We should always remain thankful for their service to our country and in return, we are grateful to serve their needs as well as the needs of the many new veterans currently joining the ranks of our nation's heroes."

Holding this day in remembrance honors those brave men and women who donned the nation's uniforms to fight in World War II, more than 16-million of them, and the 400,000 that gave their lives, and the more than 700,000 that returned home wounded and maimed. We must also remember the millions of Americans at home who also sacrificed and marshaled their talents and energies, rebuilding our fleets, and ensuring our fighting forces were well equipped to face the challenges of that Great War.

This year's Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day proclamation can be downloaded by visiting the Governor's website at <http://gov.ca.gov/proclamation/8226/>.

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Some additional resources can be found online at:

Pearl Harbor Survivors Association, Inc.
<http://members.aol.com/phsasecy97/index.html>

American War Library Pearl Harbor links
<http://members.aol.com/USAHeroes/warlib48.htm>

Best Pearl Harbor links

<http://www.pearlharborattacked.com/pearlharborlinks.htm>